

After the shots were fired he was said to have acknowledged the act and gone into hiding. A sheriff's posse was organized to arrest him. Forest Clerk White drove the automobile in which the posse traveled. The fugitive was located standing by his horse. A deputy sheriff advanced unarmed from the car, which had been stopped about 30 yards from the man, but, observing that the suspect was disengaging his rifle from its scabbard, he ran back to the car for his rifle, warning the rest of the posse as he returned. Almost immediately, however, White slumped in his seat, mortally wounded from a shot fired by the incendiary who in turn was killed by the posse.

H. N. Foss.

LIBRARY of 200,000 Volumes Maintained in the Department Henry Leavitt Ellsworth, the first Commissioner of Patents, often referred to as the "father of the Department of Agriculture," because of his advocacy, while Commissioner of Patents, of governmental aid for agriculture, emphasized in his first report, for 1837, the need for a separate library for the Patent Office, saying that "the necessity of a library of scientific works, to facilitate the discharge of the duties of the office, needs only to be mentioned to be duly appreciated." When the Agricultural Division of the Patent Office, which had been created in 1839 as a result of Commissioner Ellsworth's efforts, was transferred to the new Department of Agriculture, established in 1862, the collection of agricultural books which the division had made was also transferred. Thus began the library of the United States Department of Agriculture.

From about a thousand volumes in 1862 the library has grown until it now contains more than 200,000 volumes. It receives currently more than 3,400 different periodicals and as many more bulletins, reports, proceedings, transactions, etc., from other agricultural and scientific institutions. These are received from all over the world, furnishing an invaluable record of the current progress of agriculture and of scientific discovery.

The library is a scientific and technical library—not simply an agricultural library, for the work of the department reaches out into many fields and the library must follow it.

Subjects covered in this Yearbook suggest the scope of the library. It is strong not only in agriculture in all its branches, including animal husbandry, dairying, veterinary medicine, plant industry, agricultural statistics, and agricultural economics, but also in various sciences pertaining to agriculture such as botany, chemistry, zoology, entomology, biology, plant pathology, bacteriology, and meteorology.

Farmers Indirectly Benefited

The help given by the library to farmers, though indirect, is important. The farmer does not usually come to Washington to consult the books in the library but the publications of the department go to the farmer. They go also to housewives, to public libraries, to colleges and experiment stations, and to other scientific institutions all over the United States. Many scientific institutions in foreign countries likewise receive the department's publications, so that their benefits are widespread. In the preparation of these

publications and in all the daily work and investigations of the department the library's collections are in constant use. Practically every new scientific problem requires preliminary research in the literature of the subject before experiments are begun.

The library maintains an extensive dictionary card catalogue of all the library resources of the department. This now numbers more than a half million cards. It is supplemented by special catalogues and indexes in the various bureau libraries. Some of the largest of these are the botany, entomology, and forestry catalogues, the index of veterinary literature, the index of agricultural economics literature, and the index to roads and rural engineering literature. These together number another half million cards and form with the general catalogue of the library an invaluable record of the literature of agriculture and the related sciences. They are the keys which open up the contents of the library and are the greatest aid in its service. The library has prepared printed cards for all the publications of the department. These are included in the Library of Congress series of printed cards and are available for purchase by libraries or individuals. Printed cards are also prepared for the accessions to the library and like the cards for department publications can be obtained by purchase from the Library of Congress.

Branch Libraries for Bureaus

In the broad outlines of its organization the library resembles that of a university library with its various departmental libraries, which correspond to a certain extent to the bureau libraries of the department. The bureaus which now maintain libraries are as follows: Agricultural Economics, Animal Industry, Chemistry and Soils, Dairy Industry, Entomology, Home Economics, Plant Industry, Public Roads, Office of Experiment Stations, Fixed Nitrogen Research Laboratory, Forest Service, and the Weather Bureau. These bureau libraries are not separate and distinct libraries but are administered as branches of the main library. They with the main library form a unified library service for the whole department.

Although primarily for the use of the department, the library is free for reference to all who wish to use it. It also lends its books for purposes of research to various libraries and institutions throughout the country, but especially to the State agricultural colleges and experiment stations. The library is being called upon more and more each year by investigators outside of the department to answer bibliographical questions which come within its scope. In the extent of its collections and the scope of its service it endeavors to serve as the national agricultural library.

CLARIBEL R. BARNETT.

LIBRARIES for Rural
People Springing up
but More are Needed

The free public library is recognized as our second line of educational defense. The problem is to make it universally available. Eighty-two per cent of rural people are without public library service.

Thirty-eight States send out traveling and package libraries, which perform a limited service and emphasize the real problem.